

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1164

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT IR
SUBJ: RECENT MFA PERSONNEL SHIFTS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARY PRESENTED THE FOLLOWING THREE NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADORS TO THE SHAH DURING AN AUDIENCE JANUARY 26. SUCH A PRESENTATION CEREMONY SERVES AS CONFIRMATION OF THE THREE CAREER DIPLOMATS IN THEIR NEW RESPONSIBILITIES.

2. BAHRAM BAHRAMI, 53, NEWLY APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, GRADUATED FROM TEHRAN UNIVERSITY IN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY. HE JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IN 1946 IN WHAT WAS THEN THE MINISTRY OF ART AND INDUSTRY, TRANSFERRING TO MFA IN 1953. IN LATTER DEPARTMENT HE HAS SERVED AS STAFF AIDE TO THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER AND FOREIGN MINISTER; CHIEF OF THE CULTURAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT; DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE SECRETARIAT; CHIEF OF PROTOCOL; AND UNDERSECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS. ABROAD HE HAS SERVED IN LONDON, BERN AND HAS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM TWO YEARS SERVICE AS AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT. HE SPEAKS FRENCH AND ENGLISH. ACCORDING TO A LOCAL ROMANIAN DIPLOMAT, BAHRAMI'S WIFE IS OF TURKISH STOCK, BORN IN ROMANIA, AND SPEAKS FLUENT ROMANIAN.

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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 01164 020613Z

3. MOHAMMAD ALI MOSHIRI-HAMEDANI, 56, ASSIGNED AS AMBASSADOR TO ROMANIA, HAS A POST GRADUATE DEGREE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE FROM TEHRAN UNIVERSITY. MOSHIRI HAS HAD AN EXTENSIVE OVERSEAS CAREER, SERVING IN WASHINGTON (1955-57); BRUSSELS (FOUR YEARS); NEW DEHLI (ONE YEAR; ROME (ONE AND HALF YEARS); ISLAMABAD (MINISTER, THREE AND HALF YEARS); AND QUETTA,

PAKISTAN (CONSUL GENERAL, ONE AND HALF YEARS). HE RETURNED TO TEHRAN IN 1975 TO ASSUME DUTY AS HEAD OF THE EASTERN EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT, MFA. IN 1975 HE ALSO SERVED BRIEFLY AS OIC OF ICCS AFFAIRS AND ACTING CHIEF OF THE CULTURAL RELATIONS DIVISION. HE CONSIDERS HIMSELF AN EXPERT ON THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF PAKISTAN AND IS CONSIDERED A PAKOPHILE. EMBOFFS HAVE FOUND MOSHIRI A FREIENDLY, RATHER COURTLY CONTACT WHO IS MORE RESPONSIVE TO OUR REQUESTS THAN IS NORAMALLY THE CASE WITH MFA PERSONNEL BELOW THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. A THOUGHTFUL, STUDIOUS MAN, HE IS INTERESTED IN "EXCHANGING" INFORMATION WITH AMERICANS, EVEN IF THE "EXCHANGE IS OFTEN ONE-SIDED DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO IRANIAN DIPLOMATS IN GENERAL. HE IS MARRIED AND SPEAKS FLUENT BUT ACCENTED ENGLISH, EXCELLENT FRENCH. MOSHIRI ACCOMPANIED THE SHAH AND EMPRESS ON THEIR OFFICIAL VISITS TO POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN AUGUST 1977, AND HAS VISITED ROMANIA ACCOMPANYING FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARY RECENTLY.

4. ABBAS NAYYERI, 52, APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT, HAS A DEGREE IN JUDICIAL LAW FROM TEHRAN UNIVERSITY AND A PH.D. IN INTERNATIONAL LAW FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF PARIS (1957). HE JOINED THE MAF IN 1947 SERVING INITIALLY IN THE ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT, MOVING TO PROTOCOL IN 1948. LATER ASSIGNMENTS INCLUDE: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, 1953; HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, 1957-61; ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TEHRAN 01164 020613Z

ECONOMICS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, 1971. OVERSEAS HE HAS SERVED AT BRUSSELS (1952-1957); COUNSELOR AND MINISTER, LONDON (1962-67); AMBASSADOR TO MOROCCO (1972-76). HE HAS MOST RECENTLY BEEN DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ASIAN AND AFRICAN POLITICAL AFFAIRS. HE WAS MARRIED IN 1957 AND SPEAKS ENGLISH AND FRENCH. RANK CONSCIOUS, NAYYERI PREFERS TO TALK TO OFFICIALS BELOW THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR AT SOCIAL FUNCTIONS RATHER THAN RECEIVING THEM FORMALLY IN HIS OFFICE. THE AMBASSADOR AND DCM HAVE GENERALLY FOUND HIM HELPFUL AND QUITE WELL-INFORMED. LOWER-RANKING EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE ALSO FOUND HIM CORDIAL AND WILLING TO BE HELPFUL, BUT HAVE ON OCCASION BEEN MISLED BY INACCURATE OR EXAGGERATED INFORMATION FROM HIM.

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